

Leo E. Reich House
1 Hemlock
Wallace
Shoshone County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-84

HABS

ID.

40-WAL,

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, CA 94102

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

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STATE Idaho	COUNTY Shoshone	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Wallace
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Reich, Leo, House (Reich recorded owner for 21 years; previously unnamed)		HABS NO. ID-84
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 1 Hemlock, Wallace, Idaho (Legal: 1st First Addition, Lot 3, Block 4)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Circa 1915 (See supplement)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) See supplement		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) See supplement		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See supplement		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE See supplement		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) See supplement		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Rear addition, bathroom addition and garage all prior to 1927; some frame walls added and second garage built (dates unknown).		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Condition poor, currently vacant		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE House is scheduled to be torn down in 1988 to make way for a hotel-restaurant-gift shop complex.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Natl. Register of Historic Places, Safeco Title Co., Shoshone County Assessor's Office, Sanborn Fire Maps, Barnard-Stockbridge Photo collection, Richard Magnuson, Harry Olson, Wallace Public Library, Minnesota State Historical Society.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Michael J. Green, Depot Productions, Wallace, Idaho		DATE March 31, 1988

LEO E. REICH HOUSE
(Graifenberg-Sanders House)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Leo E. Reich House is a contributing element of the Wallace Historic District and is located in a residential area containing homes constructed between 1910 and 1920.

The City of Wallace was first settled in 1884. It is located along the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and at the mouth of three side creeks and gulches amid North Idaho's steep Panhandle. The founding of the town followed discovery of fabulous lead-silver deposits in the surrounding mountains. As mining activity quickly grew, so did the town. By 1887 the population was 500, which grew to 2,816 by 1920 (U.S. Census Bureau).

The town flourished from mining activities, and Wallace became known as the Silver Capital of the World because more silver has been extracted from the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, with Wallace as the hub, than any place on earth.

Much of the town was located on a cedar swamp, which was drained as growth occurred. The west end of town containing this house was drained and developed last. Northern Pacific Railway first owned this land in west Wallace. NP leased to private individuals this land on which was built many homes. NP deeded the land to the homeowners in a period from 1920 to 1925. This addition to the town is known as the NP First Addition.

Dating exact construction of most of the houses is difficult because the first deeding of the property occurred after the homes were built. The Minnesota State Historical Society, Archives Manuscripts Division, which possesses defunct NP's records, could not locate copies of the original leases. Early fire maps and photographs show no homes built in that area prior to 1910. Most of the homes, then, were constructed from 1910-1920.

These dates were confirmed by Harry Olson, who has lived in west Wallace since 1922. He said in an interview most of the houses in west Wallace were already constructed when he moved there in 1922. He was 10 years old at the time.

Olson remembers nothing distinctive about west Wallace other than it being an ordinary residential part of town. Its residents were a mixture of business and working people, including miners, a druggist, county commissioner and even "bootleggers." The streets were paved in the addition about 1920, Olson said. A flood in

1933 caused considerable damage to the streets and homes, he said.

As mining activity in the district began to decline in the 1970s and 1980s, so did the number of jobs and demand for homes. The 1988 population of Wallace was 1,460 (source: Association of Idaho Cities). The character of some homes changed as they went from owner-occupied to rentals. Some deteriorated from lack of care. (Some had been rentals for most of their existence.)

Because of the fast growth of the town in a short time span, Wallace contains a unique homogenous blend of architecture, which led to first a few buildings, then the downtown district, then the entire core of town listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mining towns tend to have a transient population, and many homes have had numerous owners as a result. The names provided for the houses reflect the longest-term owners or tenants.

The first recorded deeding of this house is from NP to Walter J. Smiley, March 21, 1922 (recorded date). On the same recorded date, the house was deeded to Leo E. Reich, who Olson remembers dentist who lived in the house for a number of years and raised a family there. On Oct. 28, 1937 (recorded date), Mr. and Mrs. Reich deeded the house to Anna Graifenberg, and on Aug. 28, 1959 (recorded date), the house was deeded to John Graifenberg, and on Dec. 8, 1964 (recorded date), the house was deeded to Buck Sanders, who was the last person to live in the house. The house has been vacant for several years. On Aug. 10, 1987 (recorded date), the house was deeded to J. Kimball Barnard of Spokane, Wa.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

The house is a one story, predominantly narrow, rectangular plan. The wood-frame and box construction has two additions. It rests on pier foundation. The crawl space is sided with the same light-brown composition as the main block. The siding is brick-patterned and light brown in color, under which is the original wood shiplap siding. The gable ends are sided with wood shiplap painted a lime-green color.

The original house was "T"-shaped and of box construction. In box construction, wide boards are nailed vertically to sills laid on the ground, and a 2"x4" is nailed horizontally along the top of these vertical boards. Additional vertical boards are attached to form a single-thickness wall with no framing at all.

A frame wall has been added to the interior of the north and east walls. A 12' x 14' addition on the west end of the house is frame construction and has a concrete root cellar on the north side. This also provides a partial concrete foundation for the addition. Another 7-1/2' x 12' (minus a corner closet space) bathroom addition is also of frame construction. Both additions have shiplap siding under the rolled composition siding

With the "T" shape, the house has a cross-gable roof. The bathroom addition, however, has a shed roof with rolled composition roofing. The main roof is gabled with composition shingles. The eaves are boxed. There are two brick chimneys: one extends three to four feet above the north-sloping roof near the crest and the other is on the south roof near an outside all. The open

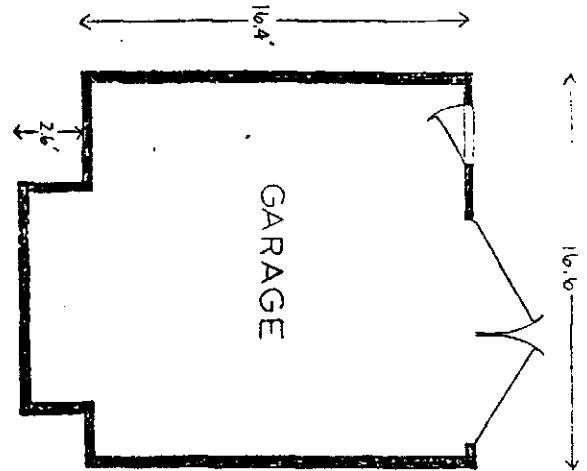
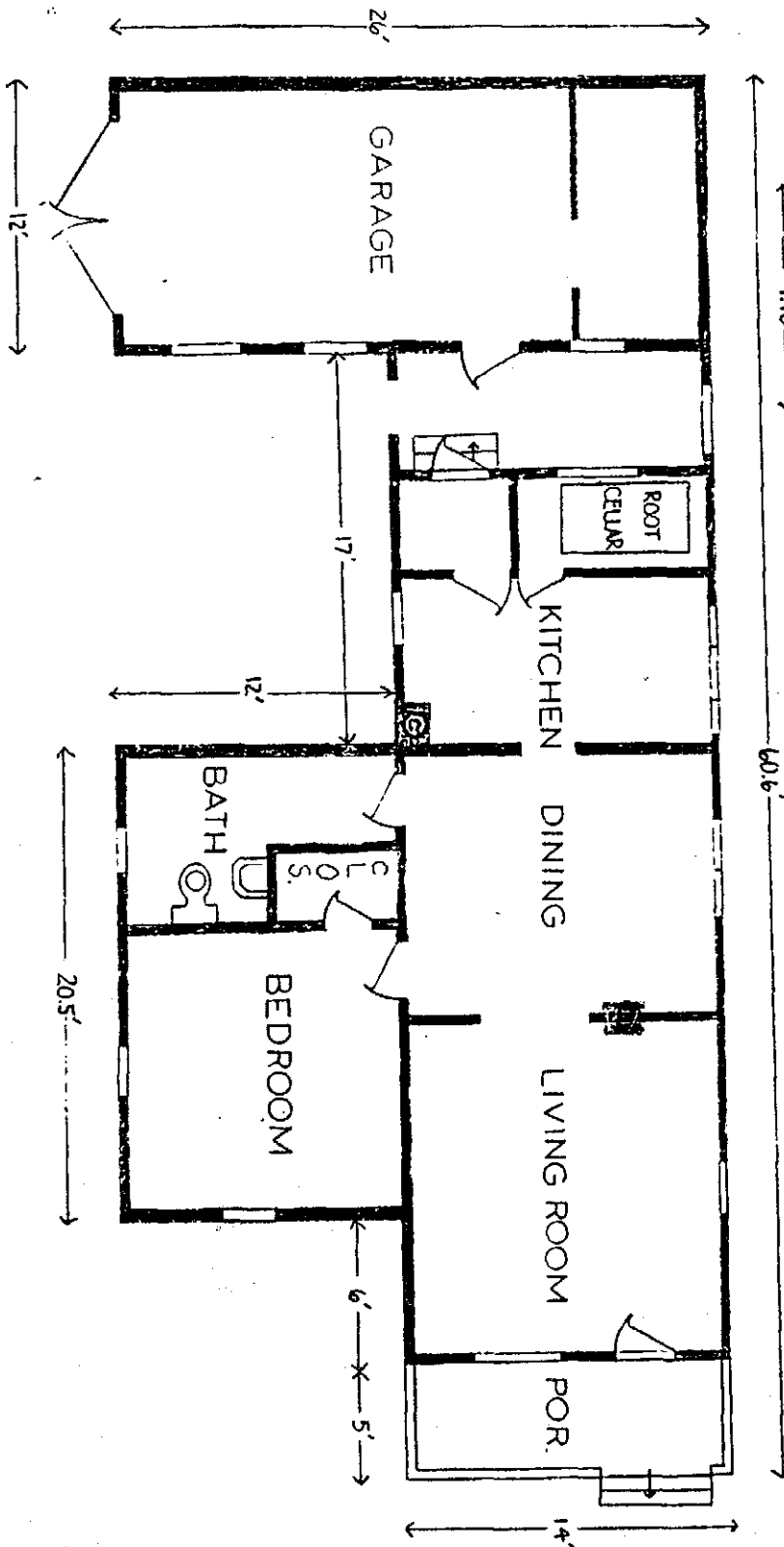
The windows are wood frame with white-painted wood trim. They are single- and double-sashed and mostly 1/1. Doors provide entrance to the front and to the back porch.

The rear of the house has an attached, enclosed walkway and two-part, two-car garage. The walkway and rear portion of the garage a shed roof with rolled composition roofing. The front portion of the two-car garage is wood frame as well, and has a gable roof with composition shingles. The walkway has white-painted shiplap siding. Another freestanding single-car garage is located to the rear (west) of the other garage. It is wood frame with a gable roof and corrugated metal roofing. The siding is wood shiplap painted white.

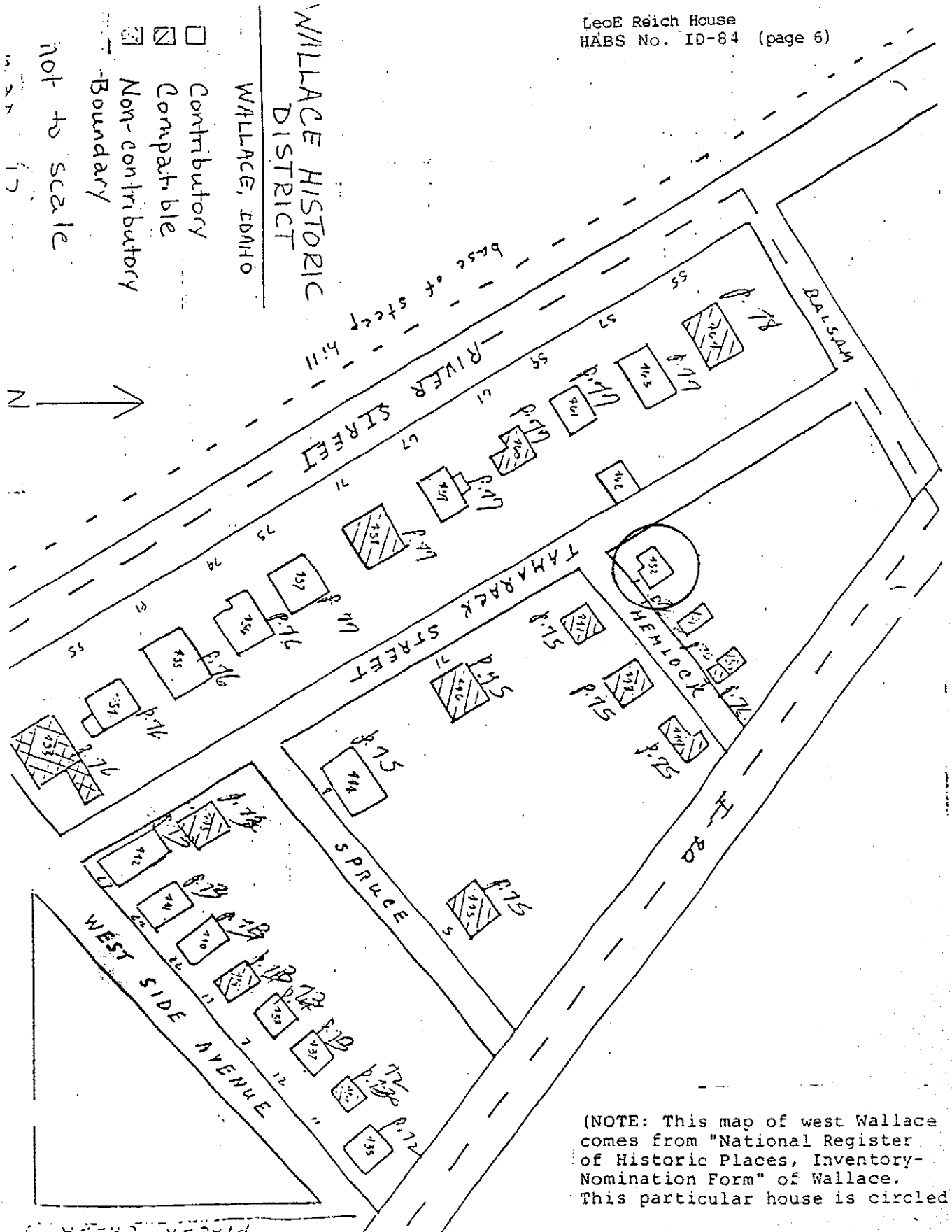
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE

The interior walls of the original house are wood covered with at least two layers of wallpaper. As mentioned earlier, the north and east walls of the original house have added frame walls with the inside wall comprised of horizontal wood slats covered with several layers of wallpaper. The additions have painted sheetrock walls. The floors are softwood covered with carpeting and linoleum. In the south bedroom, the windows protrude farther than normal into the room because of the single-wall construction. Window sills in the original portion of the house hug the floor closer than normal.

The north chimney is supported by a dividing wall. The south chimney is built against and is supported by an outside wall. It has an open base and starts six feet above the floor. A trap door in the rear addition provides access to the concrete root cellar.



SCALE 1/8"=1'
K.A. STALEY



(NOTE: This map of west Wallace comes from "National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form" of Wallace. This particular house is circled.)